January 15, 1969

Mr. Martin Lansky, Room 3000
City of New York Law Department
Municipal Bldg.,
New York, N.Y. 10007 PERSONAL

Dear Mr. Lansky,

Your letter from your office, dated 1/9, has been forwarded from our former address.

I think, assuming the picture has not been doctored, that you have made a singularly important observation. I have the Swiss edition of Joesten's "Die Wahrheit, etc" and on unnumbered page 111 there is a picture similar to the one you describe in the German edition. It is a heavily-cropped picture, but it does show the President well to the right of that tree and gripping his throat, just as in the Altgens picture. What is as important, from a hasty examination, is that it shows noone in the sixth-floor window, not a single one of the three negroes in the fifth-floor windows, of which only the easternmost two are visible - that is, the single pair - and much of the Del-Tex. Bldg. Here what seems to be a man is visible at a window or on the second-floor fire-escape landing.

However, is the picture genuine? First of all, my knowledge of Joesten's writing does not encourage this belief. Secondly, compare that picture with the Altgens in my first two books, especially the fire-escape shadows. There are long shadows in Altgens missing in Joesten, cast by the fire escape. I suggest the absence of these xxxxx in Joesten means his picture is a combination of one taken later that day one of the crucial part of the Altgens.

If your opinion is otherwise, I would like to hear from you, as I would if the picture to which you refer is a different one.

If your edition cites a source or credit for this picture, I would like to know it. I'd like to have a print rather than a printed reproduction and get an analysis from photo experts.

Thanks very much for your interest.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg